

TELEGRAM

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ACTION INR-1P

INFO RF-81 ARA-84 OAS-81 RPP1-81 ECP-81 PPC-81 NBCA-81 DCIN-81
 P ELSA-82 RPP2-81 STC-81 REIC-81 REG-81 DIR2-81
 /81E A2 YC

INFO OCT-88 ARA-88 SSO-88 ARAD-88 PM-88 INRI-88 /88E M
 -----353166 062316Z /88

G 062316Z SEP 83
 FM USDAO SAN SALVADOR ES
 TO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

~~CONFIDENTIAL SECTION B1 OF B2 SAN SALVADOR ES 06087~~

INFO FOR:

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 829 0346 83

PASS: (U) DIA HOT BOX; SECSTATE ARA FOR AMB PICKERING

COUNTRY: (U) EL SALVADOR (ES)

SUBJ: (U) IIP 6 829 0346 83/ ESAF MAY ASK US FOR
 RECONNAISSANCE - SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITY

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY
 EVALUATED INTEL.

DOI: (U) 830731

REQS: (U) M-ABX-22268

TO FORWARD COMBAT UNITS COULD BE USED TO SATURATE THE
 COUNTRYSIDE, FLYING LOW ENOUGH AND SLOW ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY
 THE ENEMY, DESTROY HIM, OR CALL IN ADDITIONAL FIREPOWER
 OR FORCES FOR THAT PURPOSE.

2. (C/NF) SOURCE STATED FURTHER THAT THE SURVEILLANCE
 PACKAGE WAS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AND THAT IT HAD BEEN
 DETERMINED (INF) THAT THE ESAF WOULD USE THE FOLLOWING:

AMOUNT	ITEM	COST
15P	P-3B AUSTIN-HAWK SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT	DOLS 6,750,000
15P	SPARE AIRCRAFT ENGINES	DOLS 130,000
1BP	AIRCRAFT-MOUNTED TV CAMERA SYSTEMS	DOLS 1,750,000
4BP	M-3D AIRCRAFT-MOUNTED MACHINEGUNS	DOLS 570,000
		TOTAL: DOLS 8,220,000

3. (C/NF) IF ACQUIRED, THESE AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT
 NECESSITATE MORE AIR FORCE/ARMY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.
 PILOTS, RECRUITED FROM THE ENLISTED RANKS, COULD BE
 TRAINED IN 3 MONTHS.

4. (C/NF) SOURCE STATED THAT AMBASSADOR STONE TOLD HIM
TO MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST FOR MONEY FROM A SPECIAL DEFENSE
ACQUISITION FUND CONTROLLED BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
CASPAR WEINBERGER, AND ASSURED HIM IT WOULD BE FAVORABLY
CONSIDERED.

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SUMMARY: (C/NF) 830731, RD MET [] IN HIS QUARTERS
 AT LATTER'S REQUEST. [] ARRIVED AND OVER DRINKS
 EXPLAINED THAT, WORKING AS A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ESAF,
 HE HAD PLANNED TO TRAVEL TO THE US DURING AUGUST TO SEE
 SECDEF CASPAR W. WEINBERGER. THE TRIP HAD THE APPROVAL OF
 NO. 1GEN CARLOS EUGENIO (VIDES) CASANOVA, AND []
 WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE US MILITARY ATTACHE, COLONEL
 GUSTAV MARTINEZ ((5422)) DURING THE MEETING. []
 STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST FUNDS FROM
 THE US TO PURCHASE A RECONNAISSANCE-SURVEILLANCE PACKAGE
 FOR THE ESAF. BECAUSE PRESIDENT MAGANA VETOED IT FOR THE
 TIME BEING, THE PROJECT IS CURRENTLY "ON HOLD."

TEXT: 1. (C/NF)

AMONG THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE
AMBASSADOR RICHARD STONE AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WILLIAM SNYDER. A RETIRED
US AIR FORCE GENERAL (INF) BRIEFED THOSE PRESENT ON A NEW
CONCEPT FOR COUNTERGUERRILLA OPERATIONS AND A WEAPONS
SYSTEM TO MAKE IT WORK. [] STATED THAT THE BRIEFER
SAY THAT THE KEY TO DEFEATING THE INSURGENTS IS A WELL-
DEVELOPED AERIAL SURVEILLANCE AND RECONNAISSANCE
CAPABILITY-SOMETHING THE ESAF LACKED. THE LONG RANGE
RECONNAISSANCE PATROLS, WHILE GOOD, ARE NOT ENOUGH TO DO
THE JOE. ACCORDING TO THE BRIEFER, A NUMBER OF
INEXPENSIVE, LIGHTLY ARMORED SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT
(SIMILAR IN CONFIGURATION TO CROP DUSTER PLANES) ASSIGNED

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ACTION INR-1E

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EOT

INFO RF-01 ARA-04 OAS-01 RPP1-01 ECP-01 PPC-01 NECA-01 DCEN-01
ELSA-01 RPP2-01 STOH-01 REIC-01 REG-01 DIR2-01
/B18 A2 YCINFO CCT-02 ARA-22 SSO-00 AMAG-01 PH-08 INRE-00 /036 W
-----353177 062319Z /38D 062312Z SEP 83
FM USDAO SAN SALVADOR ES
TO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION #2 OF #2 SAN SALVADOR ES 06067

NOFORN

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 029 0346 83

PASS: (U) DIA HOT BOY; SECSTATE ARA FOR AMB PICKERING

COUNTRY: (U) EL SALVADOR (ES)

SUBJ: IIR 6 029 0346 83/ ESAF MAY ASK US FOR

5. (C/NF) THIS INFORMATION WAS PASSED TO MOD CARLOS EUGENIO ((VIDESI)) CASANOVA WHO, IN TURN, DIRECTED [] TO PREPARE A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST TO SECRETARY WEINBERGER FOR HIS SIGNATURE. [] VISITED RO SOCIALLY 830731, INFORMED HIM OF THE LETTER'S CONTENTS, AND EXPLAINED THAT THE CDR, USMILGP HAD BEEN INFORMED.

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6. (C/NF) 830606, RO MADE AN OFFICIAL CALL TO THE MOD'S OFFICE ON ANOTHER MATTER. DURING THE COURSE OF CONVERSATION, MOD VIDES CASANOVA MENTIONED THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, STATING THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH PRESIDENT MAGANA, WHO FELT THAT IT WAS INOPPORTUNE TO REQUEST IT AT THIS TIME, BUT THAT IT MIGHT BE DONE LATER.

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7. (C/NF) 830615, [] INFORMED RO THAT HE HAD CONTACTED "THE GRINGOS INVOLVED IN WASHINGTON" (NFI) ABOUT THE DELAY. THEY ALLEGEDLY TOLD HIM TO GET THE MOD TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTENT.

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COMMENTS: (C/NF) DAD VIEWS THIS WHOLE MATTER WITH SKEPTICISM. AS A FIGHTING FORCE ENGAGED IN A WAR WHILE ATTEMPTING TO MODERNIZE ITS TACTICS AND TECHNIQUES, THE ESAF CONTINUES TO IMPROVE. IN RO'S OPINION, THE ESAF HAS NEVER HAD A SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH FINDING THE ENEMY. MOST DEPARTMENTAL COMMANDERS CAN PINPOINT THE LOCATIONS OF ENEMY CONCENTRATIONS WITHOUT HESITATION. THE CONTINUING CHALLENGE FOR THE ESAF IS TO "GO" TO THE SOURCE, "FOR SMALL UNIT COMMANDERS TO AGGRESSIVELY CLOSE WITH THE ENEMY AND DESTROY HIM. IF SUCH A CAPABILITY COULD BE IMPORTED IT WOULD BE A MUCH BETTER INVESTMENT, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED. ACCORDINGLY, ANMEC WOULD NOT RECOMMEND ESAF PURCHASE OF THE RECONNAISSANCE PACKAGE AT THIS TIME.

PROJ: (U) N/A
COLL: (U) NONE
INSTR: (U) US NO
PREP: (U) JOHN A. CASH, COL, USA, DATT
APPR: (U) JOHN A. CASH, COL, USA DATT
EVAL: (U) NO, REL TO: NONE
ENCL: (U) N/A
DISSEM: (U) N/A
WARNING: (U) NOT RELEASEABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS
DECL: DADR

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